July 19, 2012

Secretary of State John Gale State Capitol Lincoln, NE. RECEIVED

JUL 2 3 2012

SECRETARY OF STATE

Dear Secretary Gale,

Please accept this as my sworn statement to sponsor an initiative petition for a constitutional amendment to lower signature thresholds. I am the sole sponsor.

Please use the following for the Object Statement:

Place a Constitutional Amendment on the ballot to lower the signature threshold to the level before the controversial 1994 Nebraska Supreme Court decision to double the requirement, This amendment would return to the levels that existed for 82 years.

Use the language on the attached initiative.

Kent Bernbeck 20725 Rawhide Rd. Elkhorn, NE. 68022 402-570-3519

State of Nebraksa	)			
County of Douglas	) ss. )			
Subscribed and sworn to bef	ore me, a notary po ska.	ublic, this 19_0	day of July	, 2012 at
GENERAL NOTARY - St CO ZACHAR My Comm. Eq.	Y PAUS			Notary Public

INITIATIVE P	ETITION
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The object of this petition is to:

(See reverse side for actual text of measure)

For Sec of State Use Only

Place a Constitutional Amendment on the ballot to lower the signature threshold to the level before the controversial 1994 Nebraska Supreme Court decision to double the requirement. This amendment would return to the levels that existed for 82 years.

To the Honorable John Gale, Secretary of State for the State of Nebraska:  We, the undersigned residents of the State of Nebraska and the county of to the Constitution of Nebraska shall be referred to the registered voters of the state for their approval or reje and each for himself or herself says: I have personally signed this petition on the date opposite my name; and am qualified to sign this petition or I will be so registered and qualified on or be Secretary of State; and My printed name, date of birth, street and number or voting precinct, and city, villag	am a registered voter of the State of Neoraska and County of efore the date on which this petition is required to be filed with the
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WARNING TO PETITION SIGNERS-- VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE FOLLOWING PROVISIONS OF LAW MAY RESULT IN THE FILING OF CRIMINAL CHARGES: Any person who signs any name other than his or her own to any petition or who is not qualified to sign the petition shall be guilty of a Class I misdemeanor. Any person who falsely swears to a circulator's affidavit on a petition, who accepts money or other things of value for signing a petition, or who offers money or other things of value in exchange for a signature upon any petition shall be guilty of a Class IV felony.

Dat	signature	PRINTED NAME	Date of Birth	ADDRESS (Street name & number)	CITY OR VILLAGE	Zip Code
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correct date on which the signature was affixed to the petition and that the dat	onally signed the petition in the presence of the affiant, that the date to the left of ei- e was personally affixed by the person signing such petition, that the affiant believe or post office address correctly, that the affiant believes that each signer was qual printed on the petition before he or she affixed his or her signature to the petition.	es that each signer i
		Circulator
		Address
		City,State,Zip
Subscribed and sworn to before me, a notary public, this day of	, 20 at, Nebraska.	
(Seal)		Notary Public

## Proposed Constitutional Amendment Language

(underscored language indicates added language, strike through indicates language being removed)

Article III, section 2 shall be amended as follows:

The first power reserved by the people is the initiative whereby laws may be enacted and constitutional amendments adopted by the people independently of the Legislature. This power may be invoked by petition wherein the proposed measure shall be set forth at length. If the petition be for the enactment of a law, it shall be signed by seven percent of the registered voters of the state, by registered voters of the state equal in number to seven percent of the whole number of votes cast for Governor at the general election next preceding the filing of the petition, and if the petition be for the amendment of the Constitution, the petition therefor shall be signed by ten percent of such registered voters. by registered voters of the state equal in number to ten percent of the whole number of votes cast for Governor at the general election next preceding the filing of the petition. In all cases the registered voters signing such petition shall be so distributed as to include five percent of the registered voters of each of two fifths of the counties of the state, the signatures of registered voters from each of two-fifths of the counties of the state equal in number to five percent of the whole number of votes cast for Governor in each of said respective counties at the general election next preceding the filing of the petition, and when thus signed, the petition shall be filed with the Secretary of State who shall submit the measure thus proposed to the electors of the state at the first general election held not less than four months after such petition shall have been filed. The same measure, either in form or in essential substance, shall not be submitted to the people by initiative petition, either affirmatively or negatively, more often than once in three years. If conflicting measures submitted to the people at the same election be approved, the one receiving the highest number of affirmative votes shall thereby become law as to all conflicting provisions. The constitutional limitations as to the scope and subject matter of statutes enacted by the Legislature shall apply to those enacted by the initiative. Initiative measures shall contain only one subject. The Legislature shall not amend, repeal, modify, or impair a law enacted by the people by initiative, contemporaneously with the adoption of this initiative measure or at any time thereafter, except upon a vote of at least two-thirds of all the members of the Legislature.

## Article III, section 3 shall be amended as follows:

The second power reserved is the referendum which may be invoked, by petition, against any act or part of an act of the Legislature, except those making appropriations for the expense of the state government or a state institution existing at the time of the passage of such act. Petitions invoking the referendum shall be signed by not less than five percent of the registered voters of the state, by registered voters of the state equal in number to not less than five percent of the whole number of votes cast for Governor at the general election next preceding the filing of the petition, distributed as required for initiative petitions, and filed in the office of the Secretary of State within ninety days after the Legislature at which the act sought to be referred was passed shall have adjourned sine die or for more than ninety days. Each such petition shall set out the title of the act against which the referendum is invoked and, in addition thereto, when only a portion of the act is sought to be referred, the number of the section or sections or portion of sections of the act designating such portion. No more than one act or portion of an act of the Legislature shall be the subject of each referendum petition. When the referendum is thus invoked, the Secretary of State shall refer the same to the electors for approval or rejection at the first general election to be held not less than thirty days after the filing of such petition.

When the referendum is invoked as to any act or part of act, other than emergency acts or those for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, by petition signed by not less than ten percent of the registered voters of the state by the registered voters of the state equal in number to not less than ten percent of the whole number of votes cast for Governor at the general election next preceding the filing of the petition distributed as aforesaid, it shall suspend the taking effect of such act or part of act until the same has been approved by the electors of the state.